

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new paragraph at page 1, before line 1:

This application is a 371 of PCT/EP04/53436 filed December 14, 2004.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 15, as follows:

The lamellar compounds can be inorganic compounds or organic/inorganic hybrids. The lamellar compounds are preferably natural or synthetic lamellar clays. Mention may be made, as examples of lamellar clays, of vermiculites, sericites, halloysites, kaolinites, micas, smectites, hydrotalcites and Laponite® synthetic clays. The lamellar compounds are particularly preferably chosen from smectites, hydrotalcites and Laponite® (synthetic layered silicates) clays. The lamellar compounds are very particularly preferably chosen from smectites and Laponite® clays. Mention may be made, as examples of smectites, of montmorillonites, bentonites, saponites, beidellites, nontronites, hectorites, stevensites and sauconites. Montmorillonites and bentonites are preferred among the smectites, with very particular preference for montmorillonites. Mention may be made, as examples of montmorillonites, of montmorillonites such as sodium montmorillonites, sodium/calcium montmorillonites or organically modified montmorillonites, for example modified by quaternary alkyl ammoniums. Good results have been obtained with a sodium montmorillonite.